Sweet Home, OR 97386

April 16, 2003

The following is a copy of a letter I have sent to the six mainstream media outlets. I would like you to read it:

" I assure you that an unexpected outcome of biased reporting and dis-information is that people are looking to information sources which are honestly objective and have earned the Trust of viewers and listeners. The main stream 'party-line' media has low credibility for those of us who engage in even a minimum of Critical Thinking.

Coverage of the aggression on Iraq has been totally unacceptable. I suspect that in all honesty, you know why this is true.

How about doing some Authentic coverage of war profiteering? I think those of us who pay attention know darn well which of the corporations and individuals are implicated here, the very same ones who supported this 'war' and contributed large sums to the present administration. How about some ongoing reporting on the devastating impact of huge federal budget cuts in education, healthcare, veterans benefits, childcare, poverty relief and transportation as money shifts to these companies. How about reporting some Authentic Cause_Effect relationships in your coverage of Events?

The airwaves legally and ethically belong to the people in America. For a democracy to work, its citizens must be well-informed. Unbalanced coverage by your media deprives Americans of the information they need to make wise choices. It also has the unfortunate effect of diminishing your credibility. We are inspired to seek elsewhere than mainstream propaganda for information.

"One of the intentions of corporate-controlled media is to instill in

people a sense of disempowerment, of immobilization and paralysis.

outcome is to turn you into good consumers. It is to keep people isolated,

to feel that there is no possibility for social change." -- David Barsamian, journalist and publisher

.....It is precisely because 'We' are aware of this attempt that it is no longer Working. Permit me to suggest that there may be more effective ways to address your bottom line. Truth, honesty and objectivity would be a functional point of departure." (end letter)

Regarding the upcoming FCC vote, further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a

handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues, most notably the drive to war in Iraq. As an American concerned about our democracy, I call on you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

Sincerely, Demelza Costa